

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, DC 20231

OCT 1 1 2002

Lester H. Birnbaum 6308 Sauterne Drive Macungie, PA 18062

Office of the Director Group 3600

In re application of

Cynthia Florence Dmochowski, et al.

Application No. 10/010,656 Filed: December 06, 2001

For:

ONLINE CAPITAL APPROVAL

DECISION ON REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF

ATTORNEY

PROCESS

This is a decision on the request filed on July 22, 2002, under 37 CFR 1.36 and MPEP 402.06, requesting permission to withdraw as the attorney of record in the above-identified application.

The request is **NOT APPROVED**.

Under 37 CFR 1.36 an attorney may withdraw only upon application to and approval by the Commissioner. It should be noted that a withdrawal is effective when approved, not when filed. For approval of such a request the following conditions must be met:

- A) Each attorney of record must sign the notice of withdrawal, or the notice must contain a clear indication of one attorney signing on behalf of another, because the Office does not recognize law firms;
- B) There must be at least 30 days between approval of the withdrawal and the later of the expiration date of a time period for reply or the expiration date of the period which can be obtained by a petition and fee for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a);
- C) A proper reason for the withdrawal as enumerated in 37 CFR 10.40(b) or subsection (1)-(6) of 37 CFR 10.40(c) must be provided:
- D) The applicant or patent owner must have been notified of the withdrawal as provided for in 37 CFR 1.36.

The request to withdraw as attorney is not accepted in the above-identified application because it lacks conditions A), and D) above. The request is made on behalf of all the attorneys associated with Customer Number 22469. However, this customer number does not include attorneys Sharon Fenwick and Felicity Groth. Also there is no indication that the applicant was notified of the withdrawal request.

In summary, the request is **NOT APPROVED.**

Randolph Reese, Special Programs Examiner

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AM/RR: 10-02-02